GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2790
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2004
DEVELOPMENT OF GEM INDUSTRY
Deo Shri Bikram Keshari

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India has devised a plan programme for the development of the Gem-stone and semi precious stone industry in Orissa during the current financial year;

(b) whether Government is aware that India gets maximum foreign exchange in the business of precious and semi precious stones; and

(c) if so, whether Government will recognise Orissa for the development, processing and export of processed Gems?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) to (c) It is the continuous endeavour of the Government of India to promote the development of gem stones and semi precious stones industry in all the States of India, including Orissa. During the last financial year 2003-04, e~ports of Gem and Jew~llery including the precious and semi precious stones has been US$ 10711.90 million accounting for about 17% of our total exports. There is no specific scheme of recognition of individual States for the development, processing and export of processed gems.